

The Bridge Is Open

At 3:15 on Friday afternoon, Aug. 26, Powder Point Bridge was officially opened for traffic after being closed for 29 months. The first car to cross the longest wooden bridge (just under half a mile) in the U.S. was driven by Patrolman Frank Guilderson, with Selectmen Edmund Dondero in the front seat. (The other passengers were Barbara Mullooney and Bobbie and John Cutler.)

A Long Story

Built in 1887, Long Bridge, as it is sometimes called, has undergone extensive repairs. Since engineering studies in 1971, several town meetings have debated repairing the bridge or replacing it. Thanks to the efforts of Build Your Own Bridge (BYOB) taxpayers in August of 1976 appropriated \$225,000 to repair the bridge under the supervision of Geotechnical, Inc. An additional \$45,470

was added to the funds at the 1977 annual town meeting, bringing the total to \$268,470 for necessary repairs.

Turn to Page 4

BRIDGE

(From Page 1)

Original Contract

Wilson Iron Works of Malden, low bidder on the project, signed a contract in May 1976 for \$208,470. In November of that year, the selectmen terminated the contract and called the bond of Wilson Iron Works because of its failure to comply with the contract. The selectmen charged Wilson with abrogating the contract by not meeting the extended completion date of Sept. 11. There was a lack of security at the site and materials were not certified as required. The selectmen have since negotiated with the bonding company to complete repairs.

Cars traveling to and from Duxbury Beach will no longer have to go through Marshfield.